

Church Chat: @ Home Version

April 12, 2020 – Easter Sunday

A MOST GLORIOUS JOURNEY



Matthew 28:1 – 10: Jesus Has Risen

28 After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb.

2 There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it. **3** His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. **4** The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men.

5 The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. **6** He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. **7** Then go quickly and tell his disciples: 'He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him.' Now I have told you."

8 So the women hurried away from the tomb, afraid yet filled with joy, and ran to tell his disciples. **9** Suddenly Jesus met them. "Greetings," he said. They came to him, clasped his feet and worshiped him. **10** Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid. Go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

NOTES from Pastor Peter's Sermon:

MAIN TRUTHS:

1. THE RESURRECTION AND THE CROSS.

The RESURRECTION and the cross are both parts of the gospel story. _____

2. THE RESURRECTION AND JESUS.

It is through JESUS' own RESURRECTION that He is able to continue His own mission. _____

3. THE RESURRECTION AND US.

Now we are called to a new mission with this new vision – both the cross and tomb! _____

DRAW IT...

Reflection Questions: 1. Why is Easter so special for the entire world?

2. Why is the Cross of Jesus Christ, also so special for the entire world?

3. How does both the Cross and the Empty Tomb change your life forever?
Why?

COLOR THE WORDS





For more information on Easter Jam, check out our Trinity Kids Facebook Page. Be sure and post your pictures and share your fun there too!

If you want to keep reading, look-Up John 20:1-18 in a Bible.

Describe a time when you were surprised because you thought you knew something - and what you knew turned out not to be the case after all.

Further Reflection: Mary Magdalene thought at least she knew how to mourn. For all that she might not understand about Jesus' last days or why his life came to such a brutal end, at least she knew how to mourn. That's why she came to the tomb: there were prescribed rituals for burial. These rituals were most often women's work. Mary knew them. Performing them was an act of caregiving. It would be one last way she could honor Jesus, one final chance to show her love. After all that had been taken from her, she thought she could at least give that. But when she arrived at the tomb, she discovered even that possibility had

been taken from her. And she wept for all her losses: the loss of her friend, companion, and teacher; the disappearance of his body; and the stolen chance for her to provide care.

Maybe you're experiencing compounding losses now, too. The COVID-19 pandemic is changing our lives profoundly, and there is much to mourn. Schools being canceled for a month, or the remainder of the academic year, might create real sadness. Maybe you're missing birthday parties, or soccer games, or music festivals. Maybe your favorite restaurant is closed, your local park has "no entry" signs posted, your big plans – or your small ones – are erased from the calendar. Maybe you just long to see a friend's face in person, not behind a mask, not on a screen. Maybe you're missing out on the special ways your church and family typically celebrate Easter. Maybe even though the sun is shining and the flowers are blooming, you feel tired, and sad, and uncertain. In some ways, we are like Mary at the tomb on that first Easter. We thought we at least knew how to mourn, how to help each other through: gather in community, offer a gentle hand, a warm hug, some sign of presence and care. Even that is different now. When Jesus appears to Mary, she doesn't recognize him at first. Her tears blur her vision. Her knowledge of reality – the fact that the dead stay dead – keeps her from imagining that the one standing before her might be the friend she mourns. When Jesus speaks her name – "Mary!" – everything she thought she knew is both undone and reaffirmed. The powers that killed Jesus had not won, after all. The violence that seemed triumphant turned out not to be the stronger force. Her hopelessness in the wake of this loss began to disappear. She is recognized. She is known. She is commissioned to share the Good News that life and love have the last word. Maybe the good news this Easter is that even though parts of the world as we knew it are being undone, these eternal truths are reaffirmed. Like Mary, we are recognized and known, by the One whose life and love renews each of us and all the world. ALLELUIA! Discussion Questions 1. What is different about your life within the last month or two? What has remained the same? 2. What are some losses you are mourning? 3. What does it mean to you to hear your name? 4. Where do you see new life and love around you? Prayer Dear God, we give thanks that you know us, and all the world, and that you love us, and all the world. When we are sad and uncertain, remind us that there is no power greater than your love. Amen.



IT'S TIME FOR

EASTER JAM

**GRAB YOUR CREW,
GET COZY, PRESS PLAY**